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By the Queene.

A Proclamation concerning Coyne, Plate, and
Bullion of Gold and Siluer.



De Queenes most excellent Maiesty well vnderstanding, that partly through the couetousnesse of some of her Maiesties naturall borne Subiects, but chiefly through the cunning and practise of certaine vngratefull Strangers borne in forreigne parts, who haue long time liued within this Realme vnder her Maiesties safe conduct and protection, the Coine, Plate, and Bullion of Siluer and Golde, and other the treasure and iewels of this Realme, haue beene for these later yeres much more abundantly transported and conueyed out of this Realme and other her Maiesties Dominions into the parts beyond the Seas then in any former times: And finding, by due obseruation and good experience that the principall cause therof hath growen for that the good and prouident Lawes and Statutes made in the time of her Highnesse most noble Progenitours for the auoiding and preventing of such inconueniences haue not beene duely obserued and put in execution as they ought to haue beene. Her Maiesty therefore (hauing a speciall care and regard for the preserving and continuing of the good and welfare of her people, and to auoid the manifold dangers, losses and inconueniences that might insue vnto her Maiesties Realmes and Dominions and her Subiects thereof, if the same should not be looked vnto, and prouided for in time) hath thought good heereby to publish and make knowne vnto her louing Subiects, and to all other that do or shall come to liue vnder her Highnesse obeisance: That her will and pleasure is, and her Maiesty doth hereby ordaine and straitly command, that all such Statutes, branches and clauses of Statutes, as hereafter are herein particularly expressed or mentioned, shall from henceforth be duely and effectually obserued and put in execution: That is to say, the Statute made at Poike in the ninth yere of King Edward the third, called the Statute of money, first, sixt, and ninth chapters, whereby it is prouided that from thenceforth none should cary any Sterling out of the Realme of England, nor Siluer in Plate, nor vessel of Golde or Siluer, vpon paine of forfeiture of the same Money, Plate or vessel. And that the Maiors and Bailiffs in euery Port where Merchants and Ships should be, should take an oath of the Masters and Merchants of Ships going and comming againe, that they should doe no fraud against the prouision of that Law in any point, and that good and straight ward should be made in all places vpon the Sea coasts in Hauens and elsewhere, where any arriuall should be, by good and lawfull men thereto sworn, That in the Kings name they should make diligent search, that no man of what estate or condition soeuer should cary out of the Realme Sterling Money, Siluer or Plate, nor vessel of Golde or Siluer, without the Kings licence, as by the same Statute amongst other things more fully doth appeare. And one other Statute made in the fift yere of King Richard the second, the second chapter, whereby it was assented and accorded, that no maner of people, vpon paine of as much as they might forfeit, should priuily or apertly send or bring, or do to be sent or brought out of this Realme, any Golde or Siluer in Money, Bullion, Plate or vessel, but in certaine cases in the same Statute mentioned, as by the same Statute likewise amongst other things more fully doth appeare. And one other Statute made in the second yere of King Henry the fourth, the fift chapter, whereby the King to obtient the subtilty of them that would do fraud or deceit to him, contrary to the sayd Statute made in the fift yere of King Richard the second, did ordeine and establish, That if from thenceforth any Searcher of the King might finde Golde or Siluer in Coine or in Masse, in the keeping of any, that should be passing or vpon his passage in any Ship or vessel, for to goe out of any Port, Hauen or Creeke of the Realme without the Kings speciall licence, that Golde or Siluer should be forfeited to the King (sauing his reasonable expenses) as by the same Statute more at large it doth and may appeare. And so much of one Statute made in the second yere of King Henry the sixt, the sixt chapter, whereby it is ordeined and stablished that no Golde nor Siluer should be caried out of the Realme, contrary to the forme of the Statutes before made (except in certaine cases therein expressed) vpon paine of forfeiture of the value of the summe of Money so caried out of the Realme, as by the same Statute amongst other things at large appeareth. And one other Statute made in the fife and twentieth yere of King Edward the third, the twelfth chapter, whereby it was accorded, that it should be law-

full for every man to exchange Golde for Silver. so that no man holde the same as exchanged, nor take any profit for making of such exchange, upon paine of forfeiture of the Money so exchanged (except the Kings Exchangers.) And one other Statute made in the first yeere of King Edward the first, the nineteenth chapter, whereby it was enacted, that if any person or persons after the first day of Aprill then next following, should exchange any coined Golde, coined Silver, or Money, giving, receiving, or paying any more in value, benefit, profit, or advantage for it, then the same then was or should be declared by the Kings Proclamation to be currant for, within this Realme and other his Dominions: That then all the sayd coined Golde, Silver and Money so exchanged, and every part and parcell thereof, should be forfeit, & the parties so offending should suffer imprisonment for the space of one whole yeere, and make fine at the Kings pleasure. And one other part of the sayd Statute made in the sayd second yeere of King Henry the first, the first chapter, whereby it was ordeined and stablished, that the Merchants aliens should finde surety in the Chancery, every Company for them of their Company, that none of them should bring out of the Realme no Golde nor Silver against the forme of the sayd Statute, upon paine of the forfeiture of the same Golde, or Silver, or the value of the same. And one other Statute made in the fourth yeere of King Henry the seventh, the three and twentieth chapter, whereby it is ordeined and enacted, that no person dwelling and inhabiting within this Realme should from the feast of the Purification of our Lady in Anno Domini 1489 pay or deliver wittingly by way of exchange or otherwise to any Merchant or other person borne out of the Kings obedience for any merchandise or wares, or in any other maner wise, any pieces of Golde coined in this Realme or any other Realme, or any Plate, vessels, Masse, Bullion, nor Jewell of Golde, wrought or unwrought, upon paine to forfeit and lose the double summe or the double value of all such Money of Golde coined, Plate or vessel, Masse, Bullion, or Jewell, payed, delivered or exchanged contrary to that Act. And her Maiesty doth withall specially charge and command, That the Mayor and Bailiffs in every Port where Merchants and Ships shall be, and all such to whom the same shall or may in any wise appertene, do from henceforth carefully take the oath of the Merchants and Masters of the Ships according to the true meaning of the sayd Statute made in the sayd ninth yeere of King Edward the third. And that all Customers, Searchers, Controllers, and all other her Maiesties Officers & Ministers whatsoever, to whom it appertaineth, do so carefully and diligently execute their severall offices, as the sayd Statutes and all others in any sort concerning the premises may without any default or negligence in them or any of them be duely and effectually executed, upon paine of the greatest punishment that by her Highnesse Lawes may be inflicted upon them for their default, negligence, and contempt in that behalf. Given under our Signet. At our Mannour of Richmond the eighteenth day of March, in the two and fortieth yeere of our raigne.

God saue the Queene.

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